



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Crop Progress & Condition Report



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week ending March 28, 2010

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 3.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, March 28, 2010**. The previous week allowed farmers a few days to work in their fields between rain showers. Soggy soils are still delaying work, but planting has begun for several crops. As warmer weather finally arrives in Mississippi, ryegrass is responding favorably and farmers are hopeful to fully begin the planting season this week. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent short, 43 percent adequate and 56 percent surplus.

| Crop progress for week ending March 28, 2010 | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Crop | This week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Corn, planted | 23 | 14 | 46 | 35 |
| Corn, emerged | 2 | 0 | 16 | 17 |
| Watermelons, planted | 38 | -- | 37 | 19 |
| Winter Wheat, jointing | 12 | 8 | 49 | 37 |

| Crop condition for week ending March 28, 2010 | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Item | Very poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Blueberries | 1 | 1 | 12 | 83 | 3 |
| Livestock | 3 | 21 | 39 | 32 | 5 |
| Pasture | 11 | 18 | 45 | 22 | 4 |
| Winter Wheat | 2 | 12 | 35 | 44 | 7 |

Comments

“It seems to rain just often enough to keep many people out of their fields. Some corn is still being planted and there is still some prep work for soybeans and rice to be done.”

— Charlie Bush, Bolivar

“Light showers stopped all fieldwork. We should be able to get back in the fields in a couple of days.”

— Don Respass, Quitman

“Some corn has been planted on the sandiest ground and most burndown completed. We are waiting on a long stretch of sunshine so the ground can support the tractors.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Showers kept us out of the fields all week. Many farmers are saying they will start planting again next week.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Ryegrass pastures are flourishing in temperatures above 70 degrees. Most producers were facing bleak hay supplies. Commercial vegetable growers are laying plastic and setting tomatoes, watermelons, and squash.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“As soon as conditions are favorable, farmers are prepared to plant corn, soybeans, peanuts, and watermelons. Livestock producers are beginning to locate some cool season forages such as ryegrass and clovers. Blueberry bushes are loaded with fruit buds.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

“Rain last Thursday delayed fieldwork several more days. Ryegrass is finally growing and giving cattlemen some breathing room from worrying about feeding cattle.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

“Field conditions are still wet and little fieldwork if any was completed for the week of March 21st - 28th.”

— Reid Nevins, Clay

“Corn planting has slowed down some due to cool soil temperatures. Weather has been cool for this time of year. There were some scattered showers in the county on Wednesday and Saturday.”

— Lester Stephens, Washington

“Growers were able to do a couple of days of fieldwork this week.”
— Don Respass, Coahoma

“It has been too wet for fieldwork.”
— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Unusual weather conditions for the week: rain and snow on Monday and a high of 75 degrees on Wednesday.”
— Shelaine Pennington, Prentiss

“Fieldwork continued slowly between rains, and a little more corn has been planted.”
— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Continued rain is now affecting which crops are being planted. As corn planting is delayed, farmers are electing to shift more of their fields to soybeans and cotton.”
— Ernest Flint, Attala

| Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 03/28/10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| Division/Station | Air Temperature | | | | | Precipitation | | | | 4 Inch Soil Temperature | | | Avg Plan Evap |
| | Max | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week | DFN | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max | Min | Avg | |
| Upper Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clarksdale | 71 | 35 | 50 | 56 | -6 | 0.38 | -0.86 | 2 | 1.13 | | | | |
| Cleveland | 72 | 36 | 53 | 58 | -5 | 0.77 | -0.63 | 4 | 1.38 | | | | |
| Lambert 1W | 73 | 37 | 53 | | | 0.98 | -0.28 | 3 | 1.53 | | | | |
| Tunica 2N | 72 | 37 | 53 | 55 | -2 | 0.98 | -0.35 | 3 | 2.52 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 73 | 35 | 52 | 56 | -4 | 0.78 | -0.55 | 3 | 1.64 | | | | |
| North-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Batesville 2SW | 73 | 36 | 53 | 54 | -1 | 0.77 | -0.57 | 1 | 2.12 | | | | |
| Calhoun City | 74 | 35 | 51 | 55 | -4 | 1.83 | 0.50 | 3 | 3.60 | | | | |
| Hickory Flat | 73 | 32 | 51 | 53 | -2 | 1.86 | 0.46 | 5 | 3.96 | | | | |
| Holly Springs 4N | 74 | 32 | 51 | 53 | -2 | 2.18 | 0.78 | 5 | 3.87 | | | | |
| Independence | 73 | 35 | 51 | 54 | -3 | 1.63 | 0.44 | 4 | 2.95 | | | | |
| Oxford | 75 | 34 | 52 | 54 | -2 | 2.12 | 0.79 | 5 | 5.69 | | | | |
| Water Valley | 72 | 32 | 48 | 55 | -7 | 1.55 | 0.10 | 3 | 3.90 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 75 | 32 | 51 | 55 | -4 | 1.71 | 0.36 | 4 | 4.01 | | | | |
| Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Booneville | 71 | 33 | 52 | 54 | -2 | 1.95 | 0.52 | 5 | 3.69 | | | | |
| Corinth 7SW | 71 | 35 | 52 | 57 | -5 | 1.70 | 0.33 | 4 | 4.02 | | | | |
| Tupelo 2 | 73 | 37 | 52 | | | 1.32 | 0.00 | 3 | 3.21 | | | | |
| Pontotoc Exp Stn | 73 | 31 | 50 | 55 | -5 | 1.85 | 0.44 | 5 | 3.72 | | | | |
| Verona | 74 | 33 | 52 | 55 | -3 | 1.87 | 0.53 | 4 | 3.93 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 74 | 31 | 51 | 55 | -4 | 1.74 | 0.31 | 4 | 3.71 | | | | |
| Lower Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Belzoni | 73 | 33 | 53 | 58 | -5 | 0.50 | -1.00 | 2 | 1.34 | | | | |
| Moorhead | 72 | 35 | 53 | 58 | -5 | 1.12 | -0.28 | 3 | 1.73 | | | | |
| Rolling Fork | 75 | 34 | 54 | 58 | -4 | 0.93 | -0.51 | 3 | 1.55 | | | | |
| Stoneville Exp | 74 | 36 | 52 | 57 | -5 | 0.97 | -0.36 | 4 | 2.06 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 75 | 33 | 53 | 58 | -5 | 0.88 | -0.54 | 3 | 1.67 | | | | |
| Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton 4N | 74 | 36 | 52 | 59 | -7 | 1.63 | 0.23 | 4 | 3.94 | | | | |
| Forest 3S | 75 | 33 | 52 | 59 | -7 | 1.29 | -0.18 | 4 | 6.17 | | | | |
| Kosciusko | 74 | 34 | 51 | 57 | -6 | 2.41 | 0.87 | 6 | 4.54 | | | | |
| Winona 5E | 72 | 34 | 50 | 54 | -4 | 1.68 | 0.21 | 4 | 5.73 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 75 | 33 | 51 | 58 | -7 | 1.75 | 0.28 | 5 | 5.10 | | | | |
| East-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aberdeen | 72 | 34 | 56 | 55 | 1 | 1.16 | -0.24 | 4 | 2.82 | | | | |
| Columbus | 73 | 36 | 55 | 57 | -2 | 1.71 | 0.47 | 3 | 5.79 | | | | |
| Macon | 77 | 33 | 55 | 57 | -2 | 1.08 | -0.26 | 5 | 3.81 | | | | |
| Philadelphia 1WS | 74 | 35 | 51 | 58 | -7 | 1.31 | -0.13 | 4 | 3.40 | | | | |
| State University | 74 | 38 | 53 | 56 | -3 | 1.52 | 0.12 | 5 | 3.56 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 77 | 33 | 54 | 58 | -4 | 1.36 | -0.10 | 4 | 4.06 | | | | |
| Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Natchez | 71 | 35 | 52 | 61 | -9 | 1.26 | -0.32 | 2 | 3.35 | | | | |
| Oakley Exp | | | | 59 | | 1.87 | 0.38 | 3 | 3.84 | | | | |
| Port Gibson 1NE | 76 | 33 | 54 | 57 | -3 | 1.77 | 0.26 | 3 | 3.91 | | | | |
| Vicksburg | 74 | 36 | 54 | | | 1.38 | 0.00 | 3 | 2.52 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 76 | 33 | 53 | 60 | -7 | 1.46 | -0.06 | 3 | 3.72 | | | | |
| South-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Collins | 75 | 36 | 53 | 59 | -6 | 0.60 | -0.90 | 1 | 2.65 | | | | |
| Columbia | 78 | 36 | 55 | 61 | -6 | 0.76 | -0.74 | 4 | 2.74 | | | | |
| Raleigh 6N | 74 | 34 | 49 | | | 0.05 | 0.00 | 1 | 4.11 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 78 | 34 | 52 | 60 | -8 | 0.47 | -1.01 | 2 | 3.17 | | | | |
| Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hattiesburg | 77 | 36 | 56 | 61 | -5 | 2.26 | 0.79 | 3 | 5.07 | | | | |
| Laurel | 76 | 37 | 53 | 59 | -6 | 0.24 | -1.16 | 3 | 2.66 | | | | |
| Newton Exp | 74 | 33 | 51 | 57 | -6 | 0.83 | -0.64 | 3 | 6.16 | | | | |
| Waynesboro 2W | 77 | 37 | 54 | 59 | -5 | 1.22 | -0.17 | 2 | 3.40 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 77 | 33 | 54 | 60 | -6 | 1.14 | -0.36 | 3 | 4.32 | | | | |
| State | 78 | 31 | 53 | 58 | -5 | 1.29 | -0.16 | 3 | 3.67 | | | | |

DFN = Departure from Normal.